

AMERICAN EMBASSY AWARDS MICRO-SCHOLARSHIPS TO MADRASSA STUDENTS

DHAKA, AUGUST 12 -- At an August 9th ceremony at the American Embassy, Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. Geeta Pasi awarded micro-scholarships to 60 madrassa students for the study of English.

The Access program provides Micro-Scholarships for the study of English to competitively selected students from six madrassas. The program was launched in the fall of 2004 and this is the third group to participate in the program. Students are divided into smaller classes which meet three times a week for a period of 18 months at the Language Proficiency Center (LPC) in Banani at times that do not conflict with their regular class schedules.

LPC recently completed a separate Embassy sponsored program to provide training for English teachers from madrassas that are participating, or have participated, in the Access program.

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Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available from the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: DhakaPA@state.gov; Website: [http:// dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)